

The LIV YLS has certainly crammed in a lot of things during the first half of this year.

For example, kudos to the six brave debaters in April who delivered a comedy masterclass in the Legal Comedy Debate. The audience participation through the live Twitter streaming on stage was a particular highlight. Importantly, our charitable partner the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre benefited from the event.

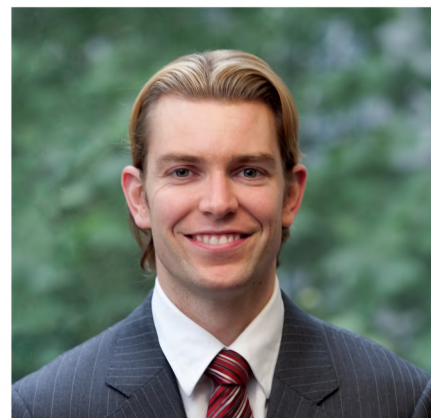
On the topic of young lawyers raising money for charity, I am pleased to report that the annual LIV and Hanover Mooting Competition raised \$34,100 for Hanover Welfare Services. Congratulations to each competing team – the quality of the moots was outstanding. A big thank you to the volunteers, judges and firms who kindly donated time and/or resources in aid of this fantastic event.

Looking ahead, we have a number of superb events in the next three months including the annual Trivia Night extravaganza on 18 July and the Golden Gavel Competition in August (both favourites among young lawyers). Additionally, the LIV Legal

Careers Fair will take place on Thursday, 11 July 2013. I encourage all final year and penultimate year students to attend as representatives from Australia's leading law firms, government and regional firms and non-legal employers will be there.

For our many regional and suburban young lawyers, Regional & Suburban Young Lawyers Week will be held on 1-6 October 2013. This was a standout last year with so much positive feedback (and sold out events). The Regional & Suburban Young Lawyers Committee is hard at work organising the event schedule and is confident it will exceed the high bar set last year. I will certainly be attending a number of these events and look forward to meeting many of you.

Moving along to social media, you may have noticed that the YLS Facebook page has more than 2200 likes and counting. This is a phenomenal achievement – and we have no intention of slowing down. If you haven't "liked" this page yet – it is well worth joining the fun. It is constantly updated with links to interesting articles and contains details of past and upcoming events. The page also contains event photos, including one showing LIV president Reynah Tang



sporting the famous (or is that infamous?) whip in his role as moderator of the LIV Legal Comedy Debate.

Whether it be via the YLS Facebook page, Twitter (@CamForbes_), LinkedIn or in person at one of our many exciting upcoming events, I look forward to liaising with you over the coming months. ■

CAMERON FORBES is the YLS president and a solicitor at King & Wood Mallesons. He can be contacted at younglaw@liv.asn.au.

facebook.com/LIVYoungLawyers

liv.asn.au/YoungLawyersBlog

EDITORIAL > LIVE YOUR LEGAL PASSION

We are ever reminded that our practice of law is to be client-focused. Know the law, understand your client, provide an excellent service. This applies to all areas of practice and to practice in all geographical areas.

Often lawyers get so caught up in delivering work that they forget to manage their careers. When you have a quiet moment, reflect on what drives you.

Let us ask you two questions.

1 What aspects of the legal profession are you passionate about? Are they delivering legal argument, achieving commercial outcomes, championing human rights, leading project management, engaging in business development?

Whatever they are, be sure to acknowledge them and then excel at them.

2 What area of law do you find the most stimulating? Family, insolvency, employment, insurance? Whatever it may be, practise it. If you're not in the area you love, then get yourself there.

If your answer to either question is "I haven't the faintest idea", we suggest you figure it out, quick smart.

Why such philosophical questions? Simple. We are granted a particular window of time in which to achieve our career goals. That window may be small or large depending on our passion for what we do. We best dedicate our time to doing what we love so that the window increases in size. Only

then will we truly provide excellent client-focused service.

The eclectic pages of this edition are bound together by a uniform thread: passion for the law. Authors discuss the fundamental right to legal representation regardless of a client's character or actions, the importance of cyber security in our digital world, the property rights of couples in de facto relationships, practice as a regional lawyer, the rules of evidence governing spouses, employment rights of lawyers and access to justice.

Find your legal passion. Then live it. ■

RENA SOLOMONIDIS and **SOPHIE ELLIS** are the 2013 co-chairs of the YLS editorial committee. Rena Solomonidis is a lawyer with Cornwall Stodart and Sophie Ellis is a lawyer with Shine Lawyers.

Law Institute of Victoria Ltd
470 Bourke Street, Melbourne 3000,
GPO Box 263, Melbourne 3001,
DX 350 Melbourne
T: (03) 9607 9311
F: (03) 9602 5270
E: lawinst@liv.asn.au
W: www.liv.asn.au

YLS The *Young Lawyers Journal* is published by the LIV Young Lawyers Section (YLS) Editorial Committee. For more information on the *Young Lawyers Journal* or YLS contact the LIV YLS manager Cassandra Piacentini
T: (03) 9607 9379
E: CPiacentini@liv.asn.au
W: www.livyounglawyers.asn.au

Young Lawyers Journal Contributions
All contributions and letters to the editor are gratefully received and should be addressed to:
YLS manager Cassandra Piacentini
LIV, GPO Box 263, Melbourne 3001,
DX 350 Melbourne
E: CPiacentini@liv.asn.au

Advertising and Corporate Partnerships Manager
Greg Cooper
T: (03) 9607 9496
E: gcooper@liv.asn.au
W: <http://bit.ly/IPfmUI>

Cover illustration
iStockphoto

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Law Institute of Victoria Ltd. No responsibility is accepted by the LIV, the editor or the printers for the accuracy of information contained in the text and advertisements. Neither the LIV nor the *Young Lawyers Journal* in any way endorses or takes any responsibility whatsoever for any material contained on external websites referred to by the *Young Lawyers Journal*.